(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) to (c) As per existing guidelines, the area of operation of LPG distributorship in the plains can be extended upto 15 kms. in case the distributorship remains economically unviable even after two years of operation. In the case of the Hilly areas, area of operation can be extended upto 50 kms.

In order to release more LPG connections in hilly areas, it is planned to clear:

(i) the entire waiting list as on 1.4.1995 in areas above 4500 ft. altitude during 1995-96;

(ii) 50% of the waiting list as on 1.4.1995 in areas between 2000 ft. and 4500 ft. during 1995-96 and the remaining 50% during 1996-97.

Tie-ups of ONGC Ltd. and OIL with multinational companies

1391. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether ONGC Limited and OIL plan to have tie-ups with multinational companies in the country;

(b) the details of the tie-ups proposed and the terms and conditions of the agreements;

(c) whether the performance of ONGC Limited and OIL is likely to be improved as a result of these tie-ups; and

(d) if so, to what extent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The salient terms and conditions are as follows:

—sharing of risk by ONGC/OIL in the Joint Venture from the date of signing of the contract with participating interest of between 25 per cent and 40 —per cent.

— The possibility of a seismic option in the first phase of the exploration period

— No signature|production bonus| royalty|cess payment

— Progressive fiscal regime

—No ring fencing of blocks for corporate tax purposes

- Freedom to Joint venture for marketing gas

— Purchase of the Joint venture's share of oil at international price

- - Provision for assignment

(c) and (d) It is expected that the joint ventures would augment the exploration efforts of the National Oil companies: venture out into hither to unexplored areas and provide access to latest technology.

Delivery of underweight cylinders in the capital

1392. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether several LPG dealers in the capital have been recently found to be delivering undrweight cylinders to consumers;

(b) if so, the facts and details thereof;

(c) whether the Delhi Government has urged the Central Government to cancel licences of those LPG dealers who have supplied underweight cylinders; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATUKAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) and (b) The Government of Delhi has informed that the Department of Weights and Measures, Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi inspected 177 LPG distributors in the capital in the months of January and February, 1995 under the provisions of Weights and Measures (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 1977. Out of these, 64 distributors were found violating the aforesaid provisions and penal action against them has already been initiated under the Standards of Weights and Measures (Enforcement) Act, 1985.

(c) and (d) The Government of Delhi has inter-alia suggested action against the distributors as per the terms of licence. Necessary action is taken against defaulting distributors. under the terms of licence and marketing discipline guidelines.

ऑयल स्टैबलाईजेशन फंड की स्थापना

1393. **श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज :**
श्री राम जेठमलानी :

क्या पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सरकार ने ऑयल स्टैबलाइजेशन फंड की स्थापना करने का निश्चय किया है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या उक्त निधि के विभिन्न पहलुओं पर अपनी सिफारिशें देने के लिए सरकार ने एक उच्चाधिकार प्राप्त समिति का भी गठन किया है ;

(ग) यदि हां, तो क्या इस समिति ने सरकार को अपनी सिफारिशें प्रस्तुत कर दी हैं ;

(घ) यदि हां, तो इन सिफारिशों का ब्यौरा क्या है और यदि नहीं, तो समिति की सिफारिशें कब तक प्राप्त होने की संभावना है ; और

(ङ) क्या यह भी सच है कि इस कोष का सभी बहुराष्ट्रीय तेल कंपनियों सहित तेल उद्योग में कार्यरत संगठनों को सहायता उपलब्ध कराने के लिए इस्तेमाल करने का भी निर्णय लिया गया है ?

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री कैप्टन सतीश शर्मा) : (क) से (ङ) फिलहाल ऐसा कोई प्रस्ताव सरकार के विचाराधीन नहीं है ।

Deal with British Gas for supply of LPG in Mumbai

1394. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a deal has been finalised between the British Gas and Gas Authority of India Limited (GAIL) for supplying LPG to Mumbai gas consumers through pipelines;

(b) what is the number of gas distributors operating in Mumbai and the number of consequential employees, such as office staff and delivery boys, employed by the gas distributors; and

(c) what are Government's plans for rehabilitating the gas dealers as well as their employees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) Gas Authority of India Ltd. (GAIL) and British Gas will be jointly implementing a project for the distribution of natural gas through pipelines in the Bombay area. There is no proposal to supply LPG through pipelines.